

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 609

By Casada

A RESOLUTION recognizing the German Farm, a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor and recognize those exceptional farming families who, through their dedication to the ancient and esteemed traditions of agriculture, have made significant contributions to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, the German/Williams family of Williamson County certainly ranks among those estimable Tennessee farming families; the German Farm, owned and operated by the family since 1830, has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm in recognition of its long and varied history; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Century Farms Program recognizes those families who have owned and farmed the same land for over a century, and also documents and interprets the State's history and culture of farming; and

WHEREAS, in 1830, Zacheus and Emeline McEwen German established the 300-acre homestead five miles east of Franklin, and named it the German Farm. The self-sustaining farm produced basic crops and livestock and specialized in the breeding of fine horses; and

WHEREAS, though it was used by Union troops as a camp location during the Civil War, neither the farmlands nor the buildings sustained lasting damages; and

WHEREAS, more than a century later, forty acres of the original German Farm passed into ownership to O.F. Williams, Jr., and John Williams, the great-grandsons of Zacheus and Emeline German; and

WHEREAS, the Williams family owns 480 acres of farmland, on which they raise crops of grain, hay, tobacco, corn, wheat, and soybeans and manage a herd of beef cattle; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like the members of the German/Williams family, who have demonstrated a deep respect for tradition and hard work and a love for the land; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the Williams family, whose German Farm has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm, commend them for their dedication to agriculture, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.